Non-Revision of bulk drug prices

1370. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3833 given in the Rajya Sabha on 21st April, 1994 and state:

(a) whether price of any of the 22 bulk drugs have since been notified or revised;

(b) if so, what was the earlier price on which the formulation prices were based and what are the prices of these drugs now;

(c) whether it is a fact that there are a number of bulk drugs where the pricing period is over but the old prices which are high are continuing, as BICP have not conducted the study;

(d) what are the names of these drugs and when the pricing period of each expired; and

(e) who is responsible for such lapses particularly when all liable officers have been appointed in drug division of BICP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The price of bulk drugs Diphenoxylate Hcl. and Timolol Maleate have been notified as Rs. 5151 per kg. and Rs. 30920 per kg. respectively on 28.7.94. In the absence of notified prices, the weighted average landed cost of imported drugs or actual procurement price supported by documents whichever is lower is adopted for the purpose of fixing/revising the prices of formulations.

(c) to (e) The revision of prices is an on-going exercise. As on 27.7.94, the pricing period in respect of 48 bulk drugs had expired and fresh Cost Price Studies for all these bulk drugs have already been initiated by BICP. BICP have informed that in several cases completion of studies is delayed due to lack of co-operate on from the manufacturing units in furnishing the requisite data. Pending completion of the fresh studies, the prices of bulk drugs on the basis of earlier studies, prevail.

Derivatives of Penicillin

1371. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Penicillin is under price control and its derivatives having turnover of more than Rs. 50 lakhs, are outside price control;

(b) if so, what are the names of such derivatives, their production, imports and landed cost of import during the last three years;

(c) why such a situation, which favours imports at the cost of domestic production, have, been created; and

(d) what steps have been taken to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) Penicillin and its derivatives are listed in Category II of DPCO '87 in accordance with the recommendations of the Kelkar Committee and imports including those of bulk drugs and formulations, are governed by the Import Policy as formulated from time to time.